

Message Text

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ACTION EB-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 EA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

SS-15 NSC-05 L-01 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01

FEAE-00 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 PRS-01 SP-02

CEA-01 /054 W

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O R 061630Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3271

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 4956

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, SW

SUBJECT: IEP AND SWEDISH NEUTRALITY STATEMENT

REF: STATE 244172

1. ON NOVEMBER 6, I MET BY APPOINTMENT WITH FOREIGN
MINISTER SVEN ANDERSSON TO INFORM HIM THAT THEIR PROPOSED
NEUTRALITY STATEMENT WAS CONSIDERED UNACCEPTABLE TO THE USG. I
EXPLAINED THAT WE WERE LOOKING AT THE STATEMENT IN TERMS
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OF NEUTRALS AS A GROUP, AND THAT WE WISHED TO AVOID A

SITUATION IN WHICH THE NEUTRALS UNLIKE OTHER MEMBERS WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO DECIDE UNILATERALLY THE DEGREE OF THEIR COMMITMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN THE IEP. I THEN READ THE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF THE SWISS NEUTRALITY STATEMENT MADE AT THE TIME THEY JOINED THE OECD. I SAID THAT STATEMENT WAS CLOSER TO THE KIND OF UNILATERAL STATEMENT ACCEPTABLE TO US. WE WOULD BE WILLING TO ACCEPT A STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY (THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES) DO NOT VIEW MEMBERSHIP IN THE IEP AS INCOMPATIBLE WITH THEIR TRADITIONAL POLICIES OF NEUTRALITY.

2. MINISTER ANDERSSON SAID HE UNDERSTOOD OUR VIEWS. ME. EDELSTAM OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, WHO WAS PRESENT, REVIEWED BRIEFLY THE FACT THAT THE SWEDES AND OTHER NEUTRALS HAD TALKED TO DAVIGNON WHO HE ALLEGED HAD ACCEPTED THEIR POSITION, AND SOMEWHAT ARROGANTLY MADE TWO POINTS:

A. THAT THE NEUTRALITY STATEMENTS OF THE SWEDES, AUSTRIANS AND THE SWISS WOULD BE EXACTLY THE SAME EXCEPT FOR MINOR CHANGES AND THAT USG POSITION MEANT SWEDEN COULD NOT JOIN; AND

B. THAT THIS MATTER WAS IN THE MULTILATERAL FRAMEWORK AND IMPLIED THAT HE THOUGHT IT STRANGE THAT WE WERE ACTING BILATERALLY. EDELSTAM ADDED THAT USG VIEW ON SWEDISH NEUTRALITY WAS BASED ON INCOMPLETE INFORMATION AND SAID DAVIGNON WOULD BE SENDING A CABLE TO ECG MEMBERS TODAY (NOV 6) TO EXPLAIN VIEWS OF NEUTRALS WITH RESPECT TO IEP AND MOREOVER THAT NEUTRALS HAD AGREED TO MEET WITH ECG MEMBERS ON NOVEMBER 8 TO EXPLAIN FURTHER THEIR VIEWS. EDELSTAM, WITH HIS MINISTER'S BACKING, SAID THAT THE SWEDISH NEUTRALITY STATEMENT COULD NOT BE CHANGED SINCE IT HAD ALREADY BEEN DISCUSSED WITH PARTY LEADERS ON NOVEMBER 4.

3. I REPEATED THAT THE USG VIEW WAS BASED ON THE STATEMENT WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTER PROVIDED ME ON NOVEMBER 5. FURTHER, THAT WE HAVE NOT AS YET RECEIVED SWEDISH EXPLANATION OF THE STATEMENT. REGARDING OUR BILATERAL APPROACH, I SAID THAT AS A MEMBER OF THE ECG WE WERE NOT SPEAKING FOR THE ECG BUT PRESENTING ONLY OUR VIEW. CONFIDENTIAL

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4. IN CLOSING, I INDICATED THAT IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THE SWEDISH TEXT WAS NOT NECESSARILY THE FINAL TEXT. MINISTER ANDERSSON NEITHER CONFIRMED NOR CONTRADICTED ME, BUT IMPLIED BY HIS EARLIER STATEMENTS THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO MAKE ANY CHANGES IN THE TEXT WHICH HE HAD PROVIDED ME.

5. FOLLOWING ABOVE MEETING, EDELSTAM CALLED ECON/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR TO EXPLAIN THAT IT WAS UNFORTUNATE FOREIGN MINISTER DID NOT EXPLAIN FULL BACKGROUND OF SWEDISH NEUTRALITY STATEMENT. EDELSTAM SAID SWEDISH NEUTRALITY STATEMENT WOULD BE MADE UNILATERALLY AND ECG NEED NOT NOTE THE STATEMENT. FURTHER, HE SAID THE SWEDISH COMMITMENT UNDER THE IEP WOULD IN NO WAY BE DIFFERENT FROM OTHER MEMBERS WHO SIGN. HE THEN APOLOGIZED FOR HIS BEING "A BIT UPSET" DURING THE MEETING. (FYI READ "UPSET" AS "ARROGANT".) STRAUSZ-HUPE

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